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REMARKS

Summary of Telephonic Discussions

Applicants' Attorney, Steven Davis, and Agent, Michael Gottselig, would like to thank the Examiner for her telephonic notification on November 21, 2006 and for conducting a series of subsequent telephonic discussions for clarification purposes, and for her helpful comments.

In the telephonic notification, Examiner alleged that the term "immunosuppressive agent" as recited in independent Claims 1, 17 and 20 renders the scope of these Claims overly broad under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In a subsequent telephonic discussion, the Examiner agreed that amending the Claims 1, 17 and 20 to recite "anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody or rapamycin" instead of "immunosuppressive agent" would be acceptable.

Examiner also agreed that splitting each of independent Claims 15 and 19 reciting "anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody or rapamycin" into an independent Claim directed to "anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody" and an independent Claim directed to "rapamycin" would be acceptable.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 17 and 20 have been amended to recite the species anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody and rapamycin as discussed. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, in the abstract and in Claims 6 and 18.

Claims 5, 6, and 18 have been cancelled.

Claims 15 and 19 have been amended to recite only the species anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody instead of both, anti-CD40L monoclonal antibody and rapamycin (see also previous section).

Claims 21 to 23 have been added. Addition of Claims 21 and 23 is supported by original Claims 15 and 19. Claims 21 and 23 are identical to original Claims 15 and 19, respectively, with the exception that only the species rapamycin is recited instead of both, anti-CD40L.

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monoclonal antibody and rapamycin (see also previous section). New Claim 22 is identical to original Claim 16 with the exception that it depends on Claim 21.

No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

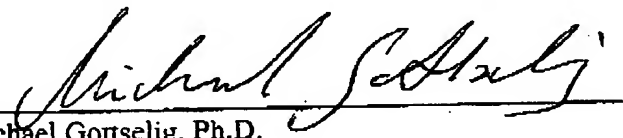
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By


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Dated:

11/30/2006